New-England's

PRESENT

SUFFERINGS,

UNDER

Their Cruel Neighbouring

INDIANS.

REPRESENTED

In two LETTERS, lately Written from *BOSTON* to *LONDON*.

London, Printed in the Year 1675.

New-England's present Sufferings, *&c.*

Boſton, the 4*th* of the 11*th* Month, 1675.

My Friend,

AFter my Love to thee and thy Wife, and the reſt of my beloved Friends in the Truth, in the which, as we abide, we are a Flock; yea, we are a pure Family of Love, the Houſhold and Children of the living God, in whom he will be glorified, in carrying of his Lambs and Babes in the Arms and Ark of his everlaſting power, over all the ſwelling and raging Waves of the Enemy, both within and without; to the joy of all his Faithful ones; and to the Glory and Renown of his holy Name, who over all in Heaven and Earth, and every where is bleſſed for ever and ever more.

Dear Frind,

I Comeing to Town, and hearing of *John Walley* (him by whom thou haſt ſent to me) who being juſt ready to Sail for *London*, could not omit to write theſe few lines unto thee: But my buſineſs to *Boſton* at this time was to build up ſomething over our) never to forgotten) Friends Graves, whom the Apoſtate Profeſſors of *New-England* had hanged on a Tree, and buryed neer the Countreys Highway ſide; the Lord having put it into my heart, that now was a fit and ſeaſonable time, it being a day of great Calamity and diſtreſs upon moſt part of *New England*; For the Natives are riſen in great wrath and fury againſt the *Engliſh*, breaking in upon many places with fireing of Houſes, and torturing of ſundry perſons with ſeveral ſorts of Tortures: And it is reported they hang up ſome alive in Iron Crooks, by the under Jaw untill Death, burying ſome alive by degrees

grees, and Skinning others alive. And ſome they carry away it is not known whither, but it is thought to Torture them after the moſt horrid ways they can invent; and here are great buſles in Preſſing Men, and ſending out to War. But the *Indians* (as a Scourge in the hand of the Lord) goe on with great ſubtilty and ſucceſs, upbraiding and challenging the *Engliſh* Warriers when they ſee them, and ſaying, *Come, why do ye not fight?* So that in a little time they have much ſurprized, and made great ſlaughters upon the *Engliſh:* and although they had great ſtore of Ammunition of their own, yet they get much more by Rifling of Houſes, and Slaughtering Souldiers out of the Thickets and Swamps, as they March and Travel along the Woods. They lately met with a Captain and his Company as they were paſſing over a Swamp; and at one Volley of Shot ſlew him, and neer all his Company. The *Indians*, I hear, inſult very much, and tell the *Engliſh* Warriers that God is againſt them, and for the *Indians*; and that the *Engliſh* ſhall (for their Unrighteouſneſs) fall into their hands. Our Rulers, Officers, and Councellors are like as men in a maze, not knowing what to do: but the Prieſts ſpur them on, telling them the *Indians* are ordained for deſtruction; bidding them go forth to Warr, and they will Faſt and Pray at home in the mean time: yet their General, with ſome other Officers, complain and ſay, with tears, They ſee not God go along with them. And many of the *Engliſh*, when the Natives have killed them, they ſtrip them naked, and leave their bodies to rot upon the ground. I heard ſome of the *Indians* did ſay to ſome *Engliſhmen*, That they did not think the *Quakers* would come out againſt them: I have not yet heard of much hurt they have done to Friends; but it is likely to be a time of great tryal to all here.

What I had to get upon our Friends Graves being ready framed aforehand, I got two Friends to help me to ſet it up in the night, a Court of Guard being kept very neer; but it being pretty dark, we did our work without interruption; ſo next day, pretty early, tiding was brought into Town, that there was a Tombe built upon the two *Quakers* Grave by the Gallows; and it being a Market day, it is ſaid, many hundreds, of Town and Country, flock'd about it, Reading, taking, and giving Copeys of the Inſcription which was Engraven upon the Front end of the Work: And much people were ſeriouſly affected, ſaying, one to another, that the deſtroying of thoſe good people, is that which hath brought the Diſpleaſure and Judgment of the Lord upon this Countrey: But the Prieſts and Rulers, it being General Court time, hearing of it, and the great Concourſe of people which gathered

about

about it, in the evening, it being the laſt day of the week, they ſent ſome to pull it in pieces, and to bring the Table, with the Inſcription, to the Governour, and General Court. When it was Demolliſhed, divers people, who afterwards came from divers Towns to ſee it, loſt their labours. But notwithſtanding the rage of the Enemy, it hath proved very good ſervice, and to the torment of the blood guilty; and it riſeth in the hearts of many people afreſh. So, my Dear Friend, with true Love, I Reſt,

E. W.

Boſton, the 10*th* of the 8*th*. Month, 1675.

My well beloved Friend,

AFter the remembrance of true Love to thee, and the reſt of dear Friends, *&c.* This may inform thee, that a moſt bitter Spirit is entred the *Engliſh*, and *Indians*; in which they greatly endeavour the utter deſtruction one of another: ſo that the Face of the ſtate and condition of this Country, to all that ſees, ſeems very ſad, and doleſome; and the fearful day of Gods moſt righteous Judgements according to his unchangeable Word, ſpoken by his faithful Servants, and Prophets, ſeems now, like a mighty and terrible one, to come upon this wicked, and adulterated Place, and People: and although they do faſt, and pray often, yet ſtill ſtands in them, faſt rooted, the evil Tree, and they ſtill delight to ſmite with the Fiſt of wickedneſs, even all them who faithfully reprove Iniquity in the Gate; and their evil hearts are much hardned So that, although Plagues, and Perplexities come in upon them, like an overflowing Stream, yet their wiſe *Achitophels* feed themſelves fat, without fear, as for a day of ſlaughter, whilſt many of our miſerable Inhabitants lye naked, wallowing in their blood, and dying; and whilſt the Barbarous enraged Natives, from one part of the Country, to another, are on Fire, flaming forth their fury, ſpoiling Cattle and Corn,

and burning Houſes, and torturing Men, Women, and Children; and burning them alive. Yeſterday came news to mine Ear, that a few Miles off, the *Indians* came to a Houſe, and catch'd a Child of half a Year old, from its Mother, and another about ten Years old; both which they carried to the other ſide of a River, where they made a Fire; and in ſight of the tender Mother, they took up the youngeſt by one Leg, and held it aloft, and ſaid, ſee you, *Engliſh* Woman, (or to that purpoſe) and ſo threw it into the Fire, and burnt it; and ſo it's ſuppoſed, they deſtroytd the other alſo. I this day heard of one whom they were three days torturing to death; ſo it plainly appears *New-Englands* unparalel'd day is now come upon themſelves. Divers of the Prieſts (I heard) gathered together to conſider what might be the cauſe that the Hand of the Lord is thus ſtretched forth againſt them: and one of them ſaid, there ſeems to be a thick Cloud between the Lord aud our Prayers, and the Lord goes not forth with our Forces; but on the very days that we Faſt, and Pray before the Lord, do our Enemies give us the greateſt overthrows; and the laſt time we Faſted, we had the greateſt ſlaughter; and ſome confeſſed that the greateſt cauſe might be in the Prieſts, but they would not all agree to that; ſo *Babylon* was, and is divided. One of their Prieſts, on a Faſt day, took his Text out of the 44*th* Pſalm, beginning at the 9*th*. Verſe, and read to the 14*th*. but Preached on the 9*th*. *But thou haſt caſt off, and put us to ſhame; and goeſt not forth with our Armies.* Verſe 10. *Thou makeſt us to turn back from the Enemy; and they which hate us, ſpoil us for themſelves.* Verſe 11. *Thou haſt given us like Sheep appointed for Meat, and haſt ſcattered us among the Heathen* Verſe 12. *Thou ſelleſt thy People for nought, and doſt not encreaſe thy Wealth by their Peace.* Verſe 13. *Thou makeſt us a reproach to our Neighbours, a ſcorn, and a Diviſion to them that are round about us.*

The *Indians* Inſult very much over our *Engliſh* Forces, Challenging them out to fight: you ſay, ſay they, you will kill all the *Indians*; why come you not forth to fight? Sometimes they watch the *Engliſh*, and will not ſuffer them to bury their ſlain, but force them to flee before them; and then return, and ſtrip the ſlain naked, and leave their Bodies to rot above ground: now theſe things are come to paſs, as was foretold by our Friends, the Servants of the Lord. A few days ſince, a Man, who had gotten one of *George Biſhop*'s Books of Friends ſufferings in *New England*, and reading a ſaying there, wherein he teſtified the days ſhould ſhortly come, that great Calamities ſhould come upon that People; and that their Young Men ſhould fall by the Sword,

and

and Worms ſhall cover them; and the Cup which they had filled to to others, ſhould be filled double to themſelves: This Man being preſs'd in Spirit, went to the General Court, then ſitting, with *George Biſhop*'s Book in his hand; and came ſeveral Miles out of the Country: he told them he could not have reſt in his mind, uutil he came to ſhew them that Book; and he delivered it to them, bidding them read ſuch a place, and conſider if he was not a true Prophet from the Lord, in what he had foretold; and whether it was not now come to paſs: But they frowned hard upon him, and examined him if he went to the Publique Worſhip, or nay; whereupon he demanded his Book again, but went away without it. Some of the Prieſts do endeavour to charm the minds of the People, and to perſwade them that the cauſe of theſe diſtreſſes, fears, and horrors, that is come upon them in their lying down, and riſing up, is for that the Magiſtrates do ſuffer the Quakers, and other Hereticks to live amongſt them; but others of them, tell the People in their Pulpits, that the great cauſe of Gods ſore diſpleaſure againſt them, is the guilt of innocent blood, which from time to time, hath been ſhed in the Land; and farther ſaid, that although the Lord had this Year taken away the Plague of Blaſting the Wheat in the Field, yet a greater Plague hath he brought in its room; and if thus it doth continue, greater Plagues than theſe are like to enſue the next Year, even Peſtilence, and Famine, with the Sword. Great is the Policy, and Wiſdome the Natives do Act withal; for they compaſs the out-ſides, and weakeſt Towns in the Country; and gather the People, and drives of them in heaps, like Fiſhes before a Net and make them fly before them to the ſtrongeſt Towns for Refuge; and ſay, they will drive them down to *Boſton*, and to two or three more of their ſtrongeſt Towns, where they, for want, ſhall ſtarve, and famiſh one another, and at preſent (if the Lord ſhew not mercy) they ſeem as if they would deſtroy, and roul up the reſt of our Nation, as a burdenſome, and menſtruous Cloth, and caſt it out of their Land; but bleſſed ſhall every one be that fears, and follows the Lord with an upright heart; for ſuch he will make as a Wall of Braſs, and he will be their deliverer, and their ſtrong Tower, henceforth and for ever more, *Amen*. Thy Friend in my meaſure in that which changeth not.

E. W.

A Copy of the Inſcription that was Ingraven over their Grave.

Although our Bodyes here
in ſilent Earth do lie,
Yet are our Righteous Souls at Reſt,
our Blood for Vengance cry.

THE END.

A 1675 X
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